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The Director of Central Intelligence Washington, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

NIC #02113-86 6 May 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH:

Deputy Director for Operations

Deputy Director for Intelligence

FROM:

Charles E. Allen

Chief of Intelligence, Counterterrorism Center

SUBJECT:

Proposed Conference

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1. With your approval, I would like to conduct a conference of Agency and external Middle East experts as part of the Counterterrorism Center's effort to determine vulnerabilities of radical Middle Eastern terrorist organizations. The proposed conference, entitled "The Radical Shi'a and Palestinians: Personalities. Motivations. and Countermeasures." will be

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June 1986 in the National Intelligence Council's conference room, 7E62 Headquarters.

- The purpose of the conference is to bring together a variety of experts for informal and innovative discussions on the radical Shi'a and Palestinian terrorist groups--and the individuals comprising them--that are responsible for numerous terrorist attacks and hostage-takings. The objective is not to examine what has been done in this area of counterterrorism--although perceived past errors will undoubtably arise as a topic during discussions--but to examine what may have been missed opportunities for US intelligence operations against these groups and how we can increase these opportunities and their probability of success. For this reason, the group of participants is small yet highly diverse and the agenda is short. Discussions should be free-flowing, yet focused on the objective of identifying the vulnerabilities of radical Shi'a and Palestinian groups and how to exploit these vulnerabilities. A tentative agenda and list of participants is attached for your review. I welcome your comments and suggestions on the proposed conference.
- The Chief of the Counterterrorism Center strongly endorses this effort.

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SUBJECT:

Proposed Counterterrorism Conference

Distribution

1 - DDCI 2 - DDO

3 - DDI

4 - VC/NIC (G. Fuller)

5 - C/CT

6 - NIO/CT (file)

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Attachment: As Stated

APPROVED:

25X1 APPROVAL 0 7 MAY 1986 Deputy Director of Central Intelligence CONCUR 25X1 25X1 **SECRET**



"The Radical Shi'a and Palestinians: Groups, Terrorism, and Countermeasures"

Conference Agenda

- I. The Radical Shi'a
 - A. The Groups and Movements
 - 1. Nature of Appeal -- what forments intensity and commitment?
 - a. for leaders
 - b. for followers
 - 2. Inter-group organization, dynamics, and linkages between leaders and followers
 - 3. Potential vulnerabilities within groups/movements
 - 4. Linkages between Radical Shi'a and Palestinian groups
 - B. Commitments to Terrorism -- why do groups/movements engage in acts of terrorism?
 - 1. Goals and Motivations -- the spectrum of terrorism
 - a. Ideological/Political
 - b. Violence as an end
 - 2. Threat versus Reality of Terrorist Acts
 - a. Group Effectiveness
 - i. Lethalness, professionalism, and technology
 - ii. Turning terror into political impact
 - iii. Skillfulness in intimidating followers, sponsoring states, and victims
 - b. Groups' self-imposed parameters on the use of terrorism
 - C. Countermeasures
 - 1. How can groups/movements and their use of terrorism be confronted?
 - a. Politically/ideologically-motivated groups
 - b. Violence-motivated groups
 - 2. Impacts and Reactions
 - D. Recap and Preparation of Talking Points for the DDCI, "Setting an Agenda for Future Action"

Conference Agenda -- continued

II. The Radical Palestinians

- A. The Groups and Movements
 - 1. Nature of Appeal -- what forments intensity and commitment?
 - a. for leaders
 - b. for followers
 - 2. Inter-group organization, dynamics, and linkages between leaders and followers
 - 3. Potential vulnerabilities within groups/movements
 - 4. Linkages between Radical Shi'a and Palestinian groups
- B. Commitments to Terrorism -- why do groups/movements engage in acts of terrorism?
 - 1. Goals and Motivations -- the spectrum of terrorism
 - a. Ideological/Political
 - b. Violence as an end
 - 2. Threat versus Reality of Terrorist Acts
 - a. Group Effectiveness
 - Lethalness, professionalism, and technology
 - ii. Turning terror into political impact
 - iii. Skillfulness in intimidating followers, sponsoring states, and victims
 - b. Groups' self-imposed parameters on the use of terrorism

C. Countermeasures

- 1. How can groups/movements and their use of terrorism be confronted?
 - a. Politically/ideologically-motivated groups
 - b. Violence-motivated groups
- 2. Impacts and Reactions
- D. Recap and Preparation of Talking Points for the DDCI, "Setting an Agenda for Future Action"
- E. Meeting with the DDCI to discuss conference findings and the preliminary "Agenda for Future Action in Countering Radical Shi'a and Palestinian Involvement in International Terrorism"